

Tenkara Fishing

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Topics

- Summary of tenkara
- Ideas for people:
 - Wanting to fish tenkara
 - Who want to restart tenkara
- Ideas for those who fish tenkara, and want to extend their knowledge and/or skills

What is Tenkara?

- An efficient fixed fixed-line technique developed historically in streams of Japan
- Overall Philosophy
 - Simplicity
 - Minimize the equipment needed
 - Importance of identifying fish holds and fly presentation
 - Choice of fly not as important as presentation
 - Importance of overall environment

Equipment

- Designed for lightness and simplicity
- Emphasizes relaxed, focused fishing
- Maximizes fishing time
- Allows one to focus on:
 - Locating fish
 - Fly presentation & manipulation

Equipment

- Rods
 - Light, long, flexible, collapsible
 - Usually 9-13' long, 2-4 oz.
- Lines
 - Usually the same length as the rod, or 1.5L
 - Several types: level, braided, tapered nylon
- Flies
 - Simple construction
 - Suggestive of insects

US Tenkara since 2009

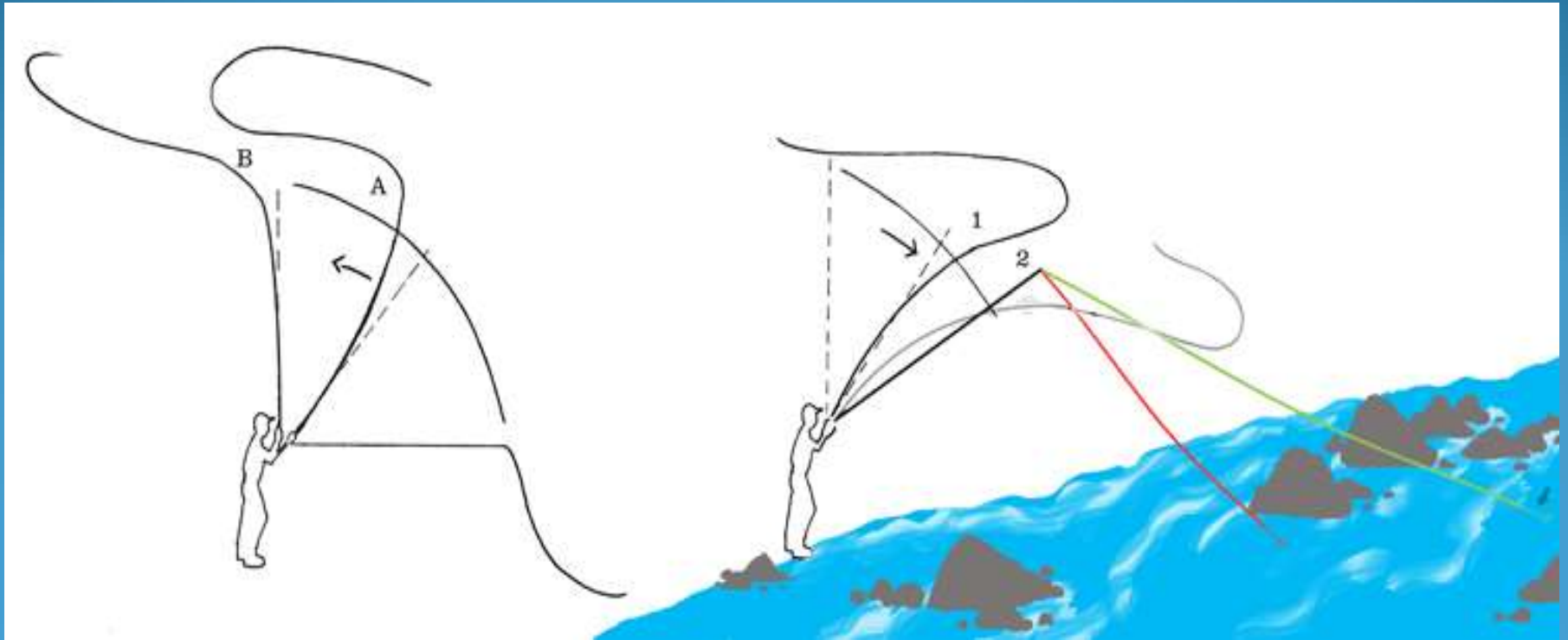
Startup of TenkaraUSA

- US Rod makers and importers
- Books in English
- Techniques:
 - Oni School (SLC)
 - Tenkara Boot Camp
 - Various websites
- Widespread clubs and gatherings

Basics of Tenkara

- Websites: www.tenkarausa.com
 - Lines, knots, flies, casting, manipulations
- Books:
 - Tenkara by Daniel Galhardo, 2017
 - Tenkara Fly Fishing – Insights & Strategies, David E. Dirks, 2013
 - Tenkara – Radically Simple, Ultralight Fly Fishing, Kevin D. Kelleher, with Misako Ishimura, 2011

Basic Cast



TenkaraUSA

Manipulations

- Dead drift
- Pause
- Pause and drift
- Pulsing
- Pulling

Examples of Tenkara Fishing

- [Masami Sakakibara Tenkara Fishing](#)
- [Luong Tam in Golden Trout Wilderness](#)

Ways to Explore Tenkara

- Reading and Websites
- Skills
 - Casting
 - Aerial mends
 - Manipulations
 - Landing large fish

Books

- Tenkara Today, Morgan Lyle, 2019
 - General book surveying all aspects of tenkara
 - Detailed looks at some of the current main people in tenkara
- How to Fool Fish with Simple Flies, Dr. Paul Gaskell & John Pearson, 2017
 - Significant info about design of tenkara flies
 - Additional info on techniques
- Reading Trout Waters, David Hughes, 1988
 - How to find the most likely trout lies in all waters

Websites

- Tenkara Guides <http://www.tenkaratimes.com/tenkara-tutorial>
 - Basics info + nymphing
- Tenkara no Oni <http://www.oni-tenkara.com/english/>
 - Masami Sakakibara: videos
- Tenkara Bum <http://www.tenkarabum.com/>
 - All things tenkara, Japanese rods
- “Tanuki Fishing” – YouTube channel
 - Many videos, Casting 101, 102
- Discover Tenkara <https://www.discovertenkara.com/>
 - Broad set of info, books/DVDs, etc.

Websites

- Tactical Nymphing <https://tacticalnymphing.org/>
 - Building a more effective way to think about nymphing
- Tenkara Fisher <http://www.tenkara-fisher.com/content.php>
 - Equipment, info, and interviews
- Tenkara Talk (Jason Klass) - blog <http://www.tenkaratalk.com/>
 - Equipment info, etc.
- Etc., etc.

Casting

- Reference: “Casting 101” on Tanuki Fishing (YouTube)
 - Rob Worthing of the Tenkara Guides
- Masami Sakakibara casting
 - Note also catching a larger fish
 - [Masami Sakakibara at Oni School 2019](#)

Aerial Mends

- The objective is to align fly, tippet, and line with the current
 - Technique is used upstream or downstream, surface or subsurface; variations accordingly
- Watch “Casting 102”, also with Rob Worthing
- I have a write-up on the GBF website, in Library-Articles

Fly Manipulations

- I've already mentioned 5 manipulations
 - There are many others, with Japanese names
 - All have circumstances when they're useful
 - Discover Tenkara has materials on manipulations
- Example - [Ashtapa-zuri Manipulation](#)

Landing Large Fish

- A large fish can easily break a tenkara rod, and requires specific techniques
 - “Large” could be anything over ~18” (no fixed def’n)
 - Ex: 22” plants on the East Carson
 - Steelhead/Salmon are beyond normal tenkara rods. But Japanese rods exist: ~8-10 meters!
- Examples
 - The Masami Sakakibara video from 2019
 - [Catching Large Fish](#)



Thanks!

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